



Attny Dkt. No. 100700.0015US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

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Examiner: **J. Young**

Serial No: **09/927,764**

Art Unit: **1623**

Filed: **August 9, 2001**

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

For: **Methods And Compositions For  
Collagen Homeostasis**

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

The Honorable Commissioner  
of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This paper responds to the Office Action dated November 20, 2002. Please enter the following:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

*B1*  
1. A cosmetic preparation comprising an inhibitor that is recognized as inhibiting a collagenase activity in a skin when the inhibitor is applied to the skin, wherein the inhibitor comprises boron.

*B2*  
13. A method of reducing collagenase activity in skin, comprising:  
recognizing that a boron-containing compound has inhibitory activity towards a  
collagenase;  
including into a cosmetic preparation the boron-containing compound at a concentration  
effective to reduce a collagenase activity in a skin; and  
applying the preparation to the skin.